

AMERICAN PENNY MAGAZINE,

AND

FAMILY NEWSPAPER.

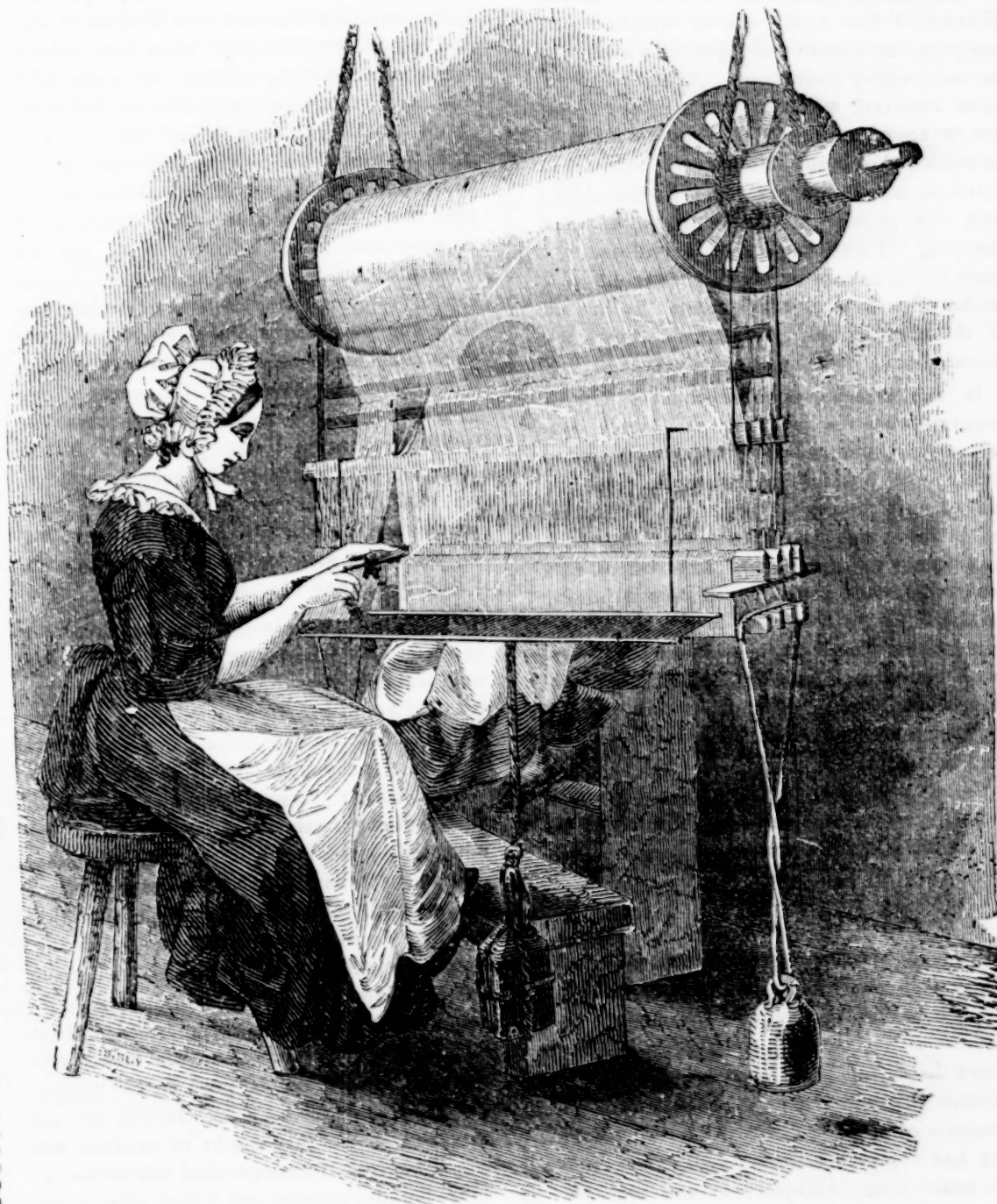
EDITED BY THEODORE DWIGHT, JR. }
Express Office, 112 Broadway. }

PRICE 3 CENTS, SINGLE, OR
\$1 a Year, in Advance, by mail.

VOL. I.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 1845.

No. 34.



PREPARING THE WARP FOR A POWER-LOOM.

Preparing the Warp for a Power-Loom

[See the Cut on the preceding page.]

There is abundance of evidence to prove that the art of weaving has been carried on from very early times. It is connected with many interesting periods, scenes, and personages in history, but in its simpler forms Modern inventions have introduced wonderful changes.

Before the actual weaving there are several preparatory processes, (says the Pictorial History of the Arts,) one of which is the *warping*, the nature and object of which may be very readily understood. As the hanks of spun material, whether cotton or any other, are wrapped up closely, the yarn requires to be stretched out and laid parallel before it is fitted to act as warp for the woven cloth; and this process of arranging it is called *warping*. There have been, at different periods in the history of weaving, four different modes of performing this process: by the aid of the *warping-field*, the *warping-frame*, the *warping-mill*, and the *warping-machine*.

In the *warping-machine* connected with loom-weaving the *warping* and other processes are conducted pretty much at the same time. The bobbins containing the yarn are ranged with their axes horizontal and parallel. The yarns are drawn from the bobbins, made to pass under some rollers, and over others, and are at length brought into a parallel layer, with a comb or grating of five wires so employed as to separate the yarns in an equidistant manner. After having so passed, the yarns are made to coil round a roller or beam, and are in that state removed from the machine.

Cotton warp has yet to be dressed or sized to keep the threads smooth. The sizing is put on liquid, with a brush, and then dried by stirring the air with a fan.

The Present War Spirit.

Whoever overlooks the war-spirit of a portion of our countrymen, will be forgetful of a very considerable, and a very dangerous ingredient of our national character. We see it now displaying itself, in an unusual degree, because an opportunity is afforded by some prospects of a war with Mexico. We have long had vamping enough; and, in our opinion, some good, philanthropic, and even pacific men have unconsciously been heaping up fuel for a military combustion for several

years past, by giving currency to the doctrine which has become so popular, of the natural superiority of the "Anglo-Saxon race!" Our ancestors and our relatives, to the most remote and almost inconceivable degrees of relationship, have been over and over declared to be a wonderful, a transcendent race of men. This would not be harmless, even if it had stopped at the flattery of national vanity: but what reflecting man would ever have expected that? We are so practical in all our habits, that doctrines are soon brought to use; and hence, we have long since seen intimations, that rights grew out of our might, physical and intellectual; and now we find thousands around thirsting to see the overrated territories of Mexico and California in the possession of our government, chiefly on the plea that they would be better managed by Anglo-Saxon hands. Not only so, but we have accounts in the newspapers, of American army-officers and cadets, overwhelming the war department with letters soliciting commands in Texas: and of militia companies placing themselves at the orders of any generals, to march anywhere, to spread the conquest of Anglo-Saxon principles. At all this, the good sense of the country laughs; we wish the prudence of the country, her justice and christianity, might do something to counteract so dangerous, so discreditable, yet so paltry and cowardly a spirit.

Hence we are looking in the face, a people of about one-third or one quarter of our own numbers, and, according to some of the "patriotic" Anglo-Saxon writers, three quarters Indians, &c., having about one Mexican to twenty or thirty of us; and suddenly the bravery of certain persons is aroused, two thousand miles off, against that poor, ignorant, uneducated people, hardly alive after thirty years of revolutions, and three centuries of Spanish and Romish oppression. There is a training day in some village, the drums beat, the fifes squeel, the chicken's feathers stick high up on the felt hats and leather caps, the Anglo-Saxon spirit is roused, and nothing but blood can quiet it! New-England rum and Western whiskey combine to push on the mighty result. Temperance pledges luckily are not universal, or the last sparks of patriotic fire would have been extinguished irrecoverably. Cider-brandy, rye-gin, and boiled cider come to the rescue, and old "Pupperlo" is clamorous for "glory."

In all this, there is nothing mean, paltry nor cowardly. Ten men, even of the most vagabond character, would hardly think of falling upon one helpless, friendless, feeble victim. Certainly they would never hold meetings and pass resolutions beforehand, (anywhere out of Lexington,) proclaiming the wonderful glories of their enterprize. But when thousands applaud, and the matter is on a larger scale, some are found who will not blush. The Mexicans are fit objects for our compassion and philanthropic attention. Our superior blessings, social and political, have laid us under quite as many duties, as reasons for vaunting; and oh, that our Anglo-Saxon blood might not display itself wholly in the latter!

THUNDER SHOWER.—In a thunder shower at New Haven, Connecticut, a few days ago, several houses were struck. The Tontine Hotel was considerably damaged. The fluid descended by the flag-staff, rending it nearly the whole distance, into splinters, and entering the observatory, tearing that in a terrific manner. It then escaped to the ridge, where it divided and ran down to the eaves, tearing up the shingles and seriously injuring one of the rafters in its course. It was attracted each way from the observatory, without doubt, by the streams of water which ran from it to the metallic trough on the edge of the roof. From thence it followed, probably, to the chimneys on each side, and may have escaped to the earth by the rods attached to them. In the attic, where much of the damage was done, was the sleeping apartment of the help; and in this room, at the time, was a colored man, who received a severe shock, but escaped with only a temporary prostration of his senses. One or two others felt the shock, but were not injured.

This is the second time that the Tontine has been struck by lightning, owing, probably, to its elevation above the surrounding buildings.

The lightning also struck the house of Mr. John Walton, entered by way of a chimney which led to a kitchen in the rear, at the fire-place of which Miss Walton was employed with tongs in hand, removing coals from the hearth to a tin baker standing near. She thinks she saw the flash descend, and dropped the tongs out of her hands. Feeling the shock, she immediately rushed into the adjoining room exclaiming, "my foot is on fire,—my foot! my foot!" Upon examining her shoe, she found that the lightning had passed through it entirely, and tearing the upper leather near the ball of the foot. Passing between the foot and the sole of the shoe it burnt her stocking in several places, and passed through the shoe on the side almost directly opposite where it entered, and proba-

bly passed through the hall and out at the front door, standing open at the time. No injury was sustained by Miss W. beyond a shock which caused a sensation of numbness in the limb most exposed. Her foot was not even burned by the lightning. Mr. W. stood in the door-way a few feet from the fire-place, and felt the shock sensibly, but received no injury, although the lightning in its course, to all appearance, must have passed by him while standing in the door-way.

THE MAGNETIC TELEGRAPH through New Jersey, it is expected, will be completed by the 1st of December; also from Baltimore to Philadelphia in November; to form a continuous line of Telegraph from Washington to New York by the time Congress assembles. The important business of the next session will be reported in New York, by this arrangement, in fewer hours than it has heretofore taken days for it to reach us by Mail or Express.

THE WHALING FLEET OF NEW LONDON, CONN., is again all absent from home. Twenty seven ships and barks, and two schooners, (the latter for the sealing business) have been fitted out there the present season. Of these, six ships and both the schooners, were newly purchased.

The tonnage of these ships added the present season, is 2865—averaging nearly 487 tons each. The tonnage of the whole number of vessels fitted out this season, including the two schooners, is 10,755 tons—showing that an usually large amount of business has been transacted here, although the season has closed somewhat earlier than usual.

AMERICAN MECHANICS IN RUSSIA.—Estwick & Evans, formerly extensive manufacturers of rail road engines in Philadelphia, at the solicitation of the Emperor of Russia, transferred their machinery as well as skill to St. Petersburg. A vast system of rail roads, joining the extremities of that nation, is to be made. The establishment of Estwick & Evans is said to be vast; and the rail roads in process are under the immediate management of Americans, as well as the locomotive power.

Maj. Whistler, a Bostonian, is chief engineer, and three thousand five hundred operatives are employed in it. To keep order in this mixed mass of Americans, English, Scotch, Irish, Germans and Russians, a company of soldiers is kept on duty, in conjunction with a police force whose duties are confined to the works. If the operatives are refractory they are discharged, unless there happen to be Russians among them; and when any of these offend against the discipline of the place, they are immediately tied up to the triangles, soundly flogged and sent to work again. And this practice is continued, notwithstanding Messrs. Harrison and Estwick have strongly appealed against it.

BIOGRAPHICAL.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF ADMIRAL PAUL JONES.

Abridged from the Appendix to Curwen's Journal, third edition, by George Atkinson Ward.

Admiral Paul Jones was a native of the parish of Kirkbean, Scotland, son of a farmer named John Paul. He was born in 1747. He early became a seaman; and at 18 was master of a West India vessel. Having given a sailor a fatal wound in suppressing a mutiny, although acquitted by a court in the island where it occurred, he was so much persecuted on his return to England, that he took up his residence in Virginia with his brother, who afterwards left him considerable property.

When the Revolution commenced he was appointed senior first lieutenant in the navy, on the recommendation of Robert Morris, Mr. Hughes and Gen. Jones, of North Carolina, whose surname he afterwards assumed in gratitude for his friendship. He made a cruise in the 28 gun ship Alfred, and in February, 1776, took command of the Providence, 12 guns, in which he took sixteen vessels in six weeks, and destroyed the fishing establishment at Isle Madame. He also fought the Solebay, 18, and twice the Milford, 32.

He was made Captain, Oct. 10, 1776, and in the Alfred destroyed the fisheries at Port Royal, and took all the vessels there, with their cargoes. February 2d, 1776, being at Brest in the Ranger, 18, he received from Count D'Orvilliers, the first salute ever given to the American flag by a foreign man-of-war. In April he scaled the fort of Whitehaven, and spiked the guns, 38 in number. Soon after he landed on St. Mary's Isle, on the Scotch coast, the seat of the Earl of Selkirk, not, as has been pretended, as a freebooter although his men plundered the house of plate: for he bought it up and restored it to the owner, and received an honorable letter in return, conveying the thanks of the Earl and his Countess. The Drake, of 20 guns, being sent out against him, he captured it in sight of numerous spectators.

He spent the next year at Brest, in mortifying delays, waiting a promised squadron; when he was struck by the first of "Poor Richard's Maxims," then recently published by Dr. Franklin: "If you wish your business faithfully and expeditiously done, do it your-

self; if otherwise, send." He set off directly for Paris, and soon sailed with five ships: the Alliance, 36; Pallas, 30; Ceres, 18; Vengeance, 18; and Duras, 40, which he named Le Bon Homme Richard, in memory of the adviser he had followed—"Poor Richard."

This vessel was a worn-out East Indiaman; but in it he sailed from L'Orient to capture the Baltic fleet, which he probably would have taken if supported by his squadron. He took the Serapis, 50 guns, and Countess of Scarborough 20, after a desperate action, with a loss of 306 men out of 380 in his own vessel, 7 feet water in the hold and on fire in two places. After this he engaged with Holland in the war against England, and was noticed by Louis the 16th. Congress struck a medal for him and gave him the command of a fine 74 which was building at Portsmouth, but afterwards presented it to France. He then joined the French fleets.

In 1786 he was appointed agent to Denmark and Sweden, to obtain indemnity for prizes delivered by them to England, and afterwards entered the Russian navy as Rear Admiral. For his services against the Turks, June 7th, 1788, he was made Rear Admiral, and decorated by the Empress. The opposition of his enemies is said to have embittered his latter years; and he resigned his office and lived in France until September 12th, 1792, when he died soon after he had been appointed by Gen. Washington agent for captives at Algiers. He was buried in Paris with public honors.

For our own part we cannot look upon such a sketch of desperate and bloody deeds without pain and revolting of heart, especially as some were performed against his own native-born countrymen, and some of them were of doubtful necessity. If war can justify all these, then we say, God in mercy preserve peace!

DISTINGUISHED GRADUATES OF NASSAU HALL, OR PRINCETON COLLEGE.

[From the Trenton Emporium.]

Class of 1766.

Oliver Ellsworth was born at Windsor, Conn. on the 29th of April, 1745. He soon after commenced the practice of law, and became a distinguished ornament to the profession.—He was a member of the continental Congress, and of the Convention that framed the Constitution of the United States. On the orga-

nization of the federal government he was elected to the Senate of the United States, and continued a member of that body for eight years. In 1796 he was appointed by President Washington, Chief Justice of the United States, and in 1799 he was sent as envoy extraordinary to the court of France. Judge Ellsworth was distinguished for talents, learning and patriotism, and received the degree of Doctor of Laws, both from Dartmouth and Yale. He died November 26th, 1807, at the age of sixty-five years.

David Howell was born in New Jersey, in 1747. Becoming a resident of Providence, he was appointed Professor of Mathematics, and subsequently of Law in the University of Rhode Island. He was a judge of the supreme court of the State, and a member of the Continental Congress, and in 1812, was appointed Judge of the United States Court for that district which held until his death. He was a man of great talents and learning, a profound lawyer and an honest man. Judge Howell died on the 29th of June, 1824, aged seventy-seven years.

Daniel McCalla, D. D., was born at Nesha-miny, Pa., in 1748. He became a chaplain in the army, and having been captured by the enemy, was sometime confined in a prison-ship. He spent the greater portion of his life in South Carolina, where he was celebrated for his learning and eloquence, and received from the College in that State, the degree of Doctor of Divinity. He died on the 6th of April, 1809, at the age of sixty years.

Nathaniel Niles was a native of Connecticut. After due theological preparation, he preached for some time as a candidate, and devoted himself to the practice of law. Mr. Niles attained eminence at the bar, and filled various public stations, among others that of Judge of the Supreme Court of Vermont. He was distinguished as a theologian, jurist, and metaphysician, and was an author of considerable repute.

John Woodhull, D. D., devoted himself to the sacred office, and was settled in the town of Leacock, Lancaster county, Pa. After remaining at this place for some years, he was called to the congregation at Freehold, Monmouth Co. N. J., where he continued until the period of his death, having been pastor of that Church for more than half a century.

Dr. Woodhull was a sound theologian, an able and powerful preacher, and an ardent patriot. He took part in the battle of Monmouth, and was an unshrinking supporter of the Independence of America. Dr. Woodhull was for more than forty years a trustee of the College of New Jersey. Dr. Woodhull married a step daughter of the celebrated Gilbert Tennant. He died at Freehold in 1824, and his descendants are among the most respectable citizens of New Jersey.

Class of 1767.

Francis Barber was born at Princeton, N. J., in the year 1751, and was graduated at the

College of New Jersey, in 1767. Mr. Barber was distinguished during his College course, for the extent and accuracy of his literary attainments. In 1769, Mr. Barber became the principal of a classical school in Elizabethtown, N. J., where he devoted himself to the instruction of his pupils, and the pursuit of science. At the breaking out of the American Revolution, Mr. Barber closed his school, and accompanied by many of his pupils, repaired at once to the theatre of war. In 1776, he received from Congress, a commission as Major of the third battalion of the New Jersey troops; and at the close of the year, he was appointed Lieutenant Colonel of the third regiment of New Jersey. He was soon after appointed assistant inspector general, and received from Baron Steuben, the highest testimony in favor of his talents, activity, and services.

Col. Barber was in constant service from the time he entered the army, until the close of the war. He served with his regiment under General Schuyler at the north. He was at the battles of Ticonderoga, Trenton, Princeton, Brandywine, Germantown and Monmouth, and took a prominent part in the battle of Springfield. In 1781, he was at the capture of the British army, under Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown. The Rev. Dr. Murray, in his interesting work on Elizabethtown, from which the above facts have been derived, states, that at the close of the war, and on the very day on which Washington was about to announce to the army the signing of the treaty of peace, Col. Barber was killed in the vicinity of Newburgh, as he was riding along the edge of a wood by the falling of a tree upon him. "He was" says the author just named, "a fine scholar—a skilful and brave officer—and rendered great and important services to his country. He has many descendants.—Among the pupils at the school at Elizabethtown, when under the charge of Mr. Barber, were Gen. Hamilton, Brockholst, Livingston, and others, distinguished in the history of the country. At the time that Mr. Barber closed his school, his Assistant was Aaron Ogden, who had a short time before completed his education at Princeton. Young Ogden, whose patriotism was as glowing as that of his principal, accompanied Mr. Barber when he repaired to the standard of his country, and when Mr. Barber joined the army as a Major, Ogden entered it as a Captain, and they were together at Brandywine, Monmouth, Springfield and Yorktown.

[We find in the old New Jersey Gazette, the following notice of Col. Barber's death. It appears in the form of a letter from New Windsor barracks, and is dated February 12, 1783.]

Col. Barber was killed by the most extraordinary accident. He left on horseback about 10 o'clock to ride to his quarters, and in going through the woods in our rear, the top of a large tree which some soldiers were falling, struck him on the head and killed

him instantly. The tree was very tall, and the root of it some distance from the path, so that the soldiers did not see him till he was directly opposite. They cried out, he stopped suddenly and began to turn his horse, but before he got round he received the fatal stroke.

From the Colonial Magazine.

An Excursion to a Cacao or Chocolate Plantation in the West Indies.

Some years back, while residing in the town of Port-of-Spain, the capital of the island of Trinidad, one fine morning at daylight, which begins there a little after two, I mounted my hardy Venezuelan pony, and started off at a brisk canter, for the purpose of spending a few days with my excellent and esteemed friend, the mayor-domo or manager of Reconocimiento cacao, or chocolate plantation, situate about twenty miles off, in the heights of the quarter or district of Aranca.

On coming thus suddenly upon it, it has the appearance of one vast forest-orchard, if I may make use of the term, planted in the space formed by a hollow between two mountains, which have receded a good deal more than they are wont to do at any other point. The mountains rise to, I should suppose, nearly 1,500 feet above the level of the cultivation, which is itself nearly 1000 feet above the level of the sea. One's sensations on reaching this calm and lovely spot, after a rugged and toilsome, although exciting, journey of six miles, are pleasurable in the extreme.

There are three species of the *Theobroma*—the *Theobroma cacao*, of which I am now treating; the *Theobroma Guajanensis*, and the *Theobroma bicolor*; this genus belongs to the class *Polyadelphia*, and to the order *Pentagynia*. The sort under consideration is produced by a tree seldom rising above the height of twenty-feet; it is equal in size to an orange tree, and its leaves are large, oblong and pointed. The whole tree more resembles the cherry-tree than any other I can compare it with, the leaves, however, being much larger than those of that plant. The flowers, which are small, and of a pale red color, spring from the large branches, and also form the trunk; they are succeeded by oval-pointed pods, grooved like a melon, and, indeed, not unlike that fruit, although the cacao-pod be smaller in girth than the melon. They contain a white pithy substance, which is of a sweetish, but sickeningly mawkish and disagreeable taste, and surrounds numerous seeds: these are the cacao of commerce. These seeds are oval-formed, and about as large as a moderate sized almond-kernel, but not so slender; they are internally, of a dark brown color, approaching to dun, and are covered with a thin skin or husk, of a light reddish-brown color. The nuts are very numerous, but vary in this respect, some pods containing as many as fifty, while others do not yield more than twenty seeds; they are, as

is well known, of a very oily nature. The tree produces fruit twice a year, or rather its principal bearings are two, although it may be said to be never altogether without some pods on it. The trees are raised from seed, which is sown, in the first instance, in nurseries, shaded by the plaintain or banana-tree. They are then transplanted in straight lines, so as to make a cross, or quincunx, formed by the junction of the apices of two triangles, or are arranged in the form of squares. The distance of the trees from each other is about fourteen feet in good soil, and about twelve in that which is inferior. Much nicety and judgment are necessary in selecting a soil and situation appropriate to this kind of produce. The Spaniards, who are the principal growers of cacao at Trinidad, do not trust to the results of analysis, to the color, or to any character or quality, except that derived from the luxuriance of the trees growing on it. The exposure should not be to the north, and the situation should be on the banks of a river, from which the benefits of irrigation may be derived when the seasons are too dry, and against any sudden overflow of which there are sufficient safeguards.

At this season, an extensive plain covered with cacao-plantations, is a magnificent object when viewed from a height. The far-stretching forests of *Erythrina* present then the appearance of being clothed on the summit with flames, the fresh northeast trade-wind adding to the illusion, as it sweeps over their tops in apparent fleecy clouds of smoke. I must not omit to mention that a plantation of cacao has many enemies; deer, a small kind of which are exceedingly plentiful at Trinidad, and squirrels and birds, are often very destructive to both tree and fruit.

Cacao is prepared for market in the following manner: the pod having been gathered from the tree by the hand, or by means of a hooked pole, where that mode is impracticable, from the branches being too high, it is collected into large heaps on the ground, and allowed to soften, or sweat, as it is termed by the planters, for three or four days. The pods are then opened, by means of a longitudinal cut, with a strong knife or bill, called a cacao-knife, or bill, and the seeds and pulp extracted with the fingers, and thrown into another heap, where the mass is allowed to sweat for two or three weeks more. At the end of this period, fermentation has loosened the seeds from their pulpy bed, when they are easily separated from it, and taken to the drying-house in baskets. The nuts are now daily spread in the sun upon a large cemented, or sometimes only carefully swept, esplanade, in front of the drying-house, where they are turned frequently and carefully, during the day; at night, they are again housed. The drying house is again furnished with large trays, in which the cacao is received during the process of drying, and which can be run out at ports in the side of the building, when the uncertainty of the

weather may render that plan advisable. The operation of drying is continued for about three weeks, more or less, according to the favorable or unfavorable state of the weather, when the nuts become sufficiently dry, and are packed for sale and shipment. Coarse bags, made of Oznaburghs sacking, having been prepared, each large enough to contain a fanega in weight, they are filled with the produce, which is now ready to be conveyed to market, in Port-of-Spain, on mules' backs, or in carts, as the nature of the roads will admit, where it is usually immediately sold, and shipped for Europe, as it is an article which deteriorates by keeping.

Selected for the American Penny Magazine.

[From Cochrane's Wanderings in Greece.]

AN ENGLISH COUNTRY SEAT NEAR ATHENS.

Our walk had now brought us near our friend, Mr. Bell's country seat, and we paid him a visit. This gentleman is a British officer, who, "tired of war's alarms," has taken to tilling his land, the greater part of which adjoins Mount Pentelico. His house is spacious, and built with all the comforts of an English dwelling. The second story is surrounded by a balcony, from which, even in the hottest weather, one finds a breeze. Above this, he had constructed a staircase ascending to the roof, the view from which is magnificent. Mr. Bell has laid out a great deal of money upon this spot. Around the house, he has cultivated a garden of about an acre and a half, which is considered the best in Athens. Leading from the gate to his house, (a distance of one hundred yards,) he has made two thick plantations of rose trees, with beds of anemones, and various other kinds of flowers, which he brought from Malta. These were, at the present moment, nearly all in full bloom; and this, in addition to the odoriferous fragrance of clusters of orange and lemon trees, rendered the spot a most delightful and enchanting one. Though it was early in April, the pease (of the English kind,) were in the pod; and the potatoes were in a flourishing state. Of these latter, he always (he said,) had two crops in the year. His garden is watered by the Cephissus—a stream being laid on artificially from the river. There appeared to me to be only one thing wanting to complete this pleasant residence, and that was, a bath; for, in a hot climate, nothing can exceed the luxury of a cold bath, in a garden, in the morning before sunrise.

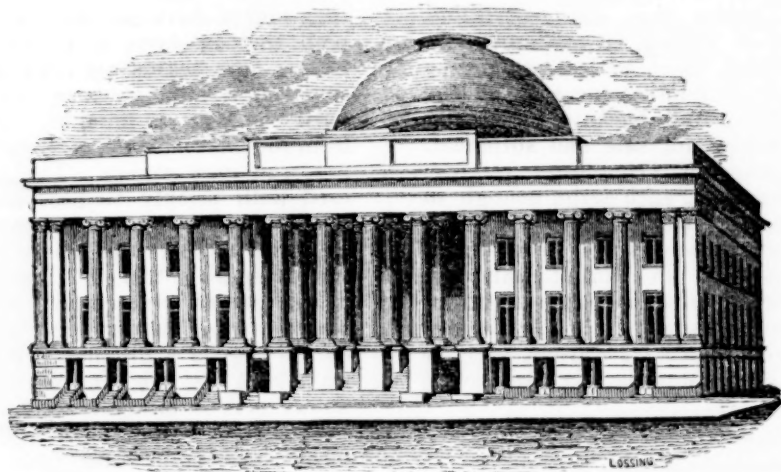
In the walk round the garden, Mr. Bell called my attention to the new wall he had built, after the style of the country, and spoke of the very small cost of it. It was of clay, about six feet high, and a foot and a half thick: and he described the way of constructing it as follows—boards are placed about a foot from each other, and a yard in length, and closed up at the two ends: the soil is then dug out of the ditch, mixed up with a little water to make it of the consistence of soft clay, and

then placed between the boards, where it is well trodden down with the feet for half an hour. The boards are then taken away, and removed a step forward; thus progressing until the wall is finished. In a few days, from the heat of the sun, it becomes hard and dry, and very strong. The top is then covered with prickly bushes, which make it a perfect defence against any cattle whatsoever. Bell told us that the whole cost him about thirty leptas a foot, or three-pence English. In the garden, vines were trained in various ways, making bowers and alcoves; so that, in the heat of a mid-day solstice, one might walk well sheltered and protected, with clusters of grapes hanging down from the roof. Bell, with the frank hospitality of a British soldier, pressed us to stop and breakfast with him, and we wanted but little entreaty. So, in half an hour, under shade of the vine grove, the table was laid for our repast. Tea, coffee, and a pigeon pie, with toast and butter, made from sheep's milk, which is very delicate, were placed before us; and to crown the whole, some little honey from the hives of one of his tenants.

HYDRO ELECTRICITY.—"The fact that electricity could be evolved by the act of steam was accidentally discovered about two years ago in England. An engineer was examining a boiler which was in action and which leaked a little, allowing a small jet of steam to escape through a crevice in the boiler and the binding which was around it. It happened that while one hand rested on the boiler he brought the other into this jet of steam, and was surprised at receiving a very sensible shock, accompanied with a slight cracking sound. This occurred as often as he placed his hands in the situation spoken of." Electricity was the cause.

The steam, under high pressure, is allowed to escape through many small orifices, opposite to which are placed the points of the prime conductor, which, of course, receives the positive electricity; the negative may be collected from any part of the boiler; and it is this which is used in the experiments, the prime conductor being enveloped in a cloud of steam. The usual position of things is therefore reversed, and the boiler is isolated by being supported upon glass legs.

The phenomena exhibited by this machine are most startling and wonderful. The spark is nearly two feet in length, and instead of being straight as is the case with the usual apparatus, it darts in a zigzag direction like lightning, and with apparent spite and virulence which is almost fearful. By this machine Aurora Borealis is shewn to be undoubtedly electric in its origin. The fluid is generated with such rapidity that a battery of Leyden jars, exposing one hundred and fifty square feet of surface, can be charged with it. A bolt from this battery would kill an ox or shiver a rock a foot and a half in diameter.—*Evening Gazette.*



THE NEW YORK EXCHANGE.

This is the great place of resort for commercial men in the city of New York; and within it, (in fine weather, on the street—pavements around it,) a large and busy concourse of men of business is to be seen every day in the year except the Sabbath and the few festival days on which there is a general suspension of mercantile transactions.

The New York Exchange is built entirely of Quincy Sienite, three stories high, and a basement, covering a block, between four streets, and is 197 feet 7 inches on Wall-street, 144 on one side, and 170 on the other, with a large dome above, 100 feet high. This covers the circular exchange room, 95 feet high, and 80 in diameter. In front is a row of 12 Ionic columns, with 6 more at the door. The shafts are single stones, 32 feet 8 inches long, and from 4 feet to 4 feet 4 inches in diameter at the base, those on the wings weighing about 33 tons, and the others 35. Each cost about \$5,000. The building, among other things, contains Mr. Gilpin's News Room and Packet Office, several insurance and other offices. The Telegraph is kept on the top to communicate with that on Staten Island. The great fire, in 1835, destroyed the former Exchange, but did not cross Wall-street. It swept down to Old Slip.

The late great fire also threatened the destruction of the Exchange from the other side, but was happily arrested before it had extended beyond the eastern side of Broad-street.

Wall-street, on which the Exchange fronts, owes its name to its having been the northern limit of the city for some time after its first settlement. A wooden barrier was built along this line, for protection against the Indians. As the population increased, streets were gradually opened beyond. After the revolutionary war, Wall-street, and the ad-

jacent parts of several of the streets which cross it, were occupied by the houses of many of the principal inhabitants. Most of them, however, have been long since removed, to give place for larger buildings, now crowded with banks, insurance offices, exchange and brokers' offices, those of attorneys, counsellors, &c.

The first bank ever formed in this city, the "Bank of New York," stands at the corner of William street, just above the Exchange. It began business, as a private company, soon after the return of peace, and in 1791 was incorporated by the Legislature of the State, with a capital stock of \$950,000.

The first insurance company of this city was incorporated in 1798, under the title of the "United Insurance Company in the City of New York."

The Chamber of Commerce hold their meetings in their rooms in the Exchange. This company was formed in 1768, by twenty merchants, voluntarily associating, who patriotically combined to prevent the importation of goods from Great Britain, during the restrictions at that time laid on the colonies by the mother country. The House of Assembly passed a vote of thanks to them for this proceeding, on the second of May of that year.—In 1770 a charter was granted to them by the colonial Legislature, which was confirmed April 13th, 1784, by the Legislature of the State.

The Board of Brokers hold a daily meeting a noon, in the Exchange. A reading-room, refectory, and numerous offices are found in different parts of this building.



HEAD OF THE MOOSE DEER,
Or American Elk.

The head of this animal is so peculiar in appearance, crowned with its broad, flat and palmated horns, that it is easy to recognize it after having seen it once. It is one of the largest animals found on the American continent, and made an important figure among the field sports of the savage hunters, in extensive districts of our country. It is mentioned by our early writers, and has a conspicuous place on their pages, as it had in the forest, or rather in the vallies and plains, which it made its favorite haunts.

They have now long disappeared in the old states, even in the most wild and secluded parts of our northern regions. About twenty-five years ago, as we were informed, while on a visit to the White Mountains of New-Hampshire, a moose-deer suddenly made its appearance one day in the little meadow about four miles above "the Notch," and was seen for a few moments feeding on the new grass, which there sprouts with great rapidity at the disappearance of snow. Hearing some noise, and being alarmed, it sprung away for the mountains, and meeting with an old horse-shed in the way, dashed through it, head foremost, tearing off the boards, and forcing a passage for itself, without suffering any apparent injury, or being detained for a moment.

We copy the following description of this animal from Wilson's Sketches of Natural History of North America.

The elk or moose-deer (*Cervus alces*) is a gigantic animal, of a heavy and rather disa-

greeable aspect. It is easily recognised by the great height of its limbs, the shortness of its neck, its lengthened head, projecting muzzle, and short upright mane. When full grown it measures above six feet in height. The fur is long, thick, and very coarse, of a hoary-brown color, varying according to age and the season of the year. The antlers are very broad and solid, plain on the inner edge, but armed externally with numerous sharp points or shoots, which sometimes amount to twenty-eight. A single antler has been known to weigh fifty-six pounds.

The neck of the elk is much shorter than its head, which gives it almost a deformed appearance, though such a formation is in fact rendered necessary by the great weight of its antlers, which could not be so easily supported upon a neck of greater length. Notwithstanding the length of its muzzle, it collects its food with difficulty from the ground, being obliged either greatly to spread out or to bend its limbs. From this results its propensity to browse upon the tender twigs and leaves of trees,—a mode of feeding which the keepers of the French menagerie found it very difficult to alter in the individual under their charge. The upper part of the mouth is prolonged almost in form of a small trunk, and furnished with muscles, which give it great flexibility of movement, and enable it rapidly to collect its food. In summer, during the prevalence of the gadflies in the Scandinavian peninsula, it plunges into marshes, where it often lies day and night, with nothing above water but its head. It is even said to browse upon the aquatic plants beneath the surface, making at the same time a loud blowing sound through its nostrils.

The American elks live in small troops in swampy places. Their gait, according to Dr. Harlan, is generally a trot, and they are less active than most other deer. The old individuals lose their horns in January and February, and the young in April and May. In regard to their geographical distribution, they appear to have been formerly found as far south as the Ohio. At present they occur only in the more northern parts of the United States, and beyond the Great Lakes. Captain Franklin met with several during his last expedition, feeding on willows at the mouth of the Mackenzie, in lat. 69°. Although they are said to form small herds in Canada, yet in the more northern parts they are very solitary, more than one being seldom seen. The sense of hearing is remarkably acute in this species, and it is described as the shyest and most wary of the deer-tribe. It is an inoffensive animal, unless when irritated by a wound, when its great strength renders it formidable, or during rutting-time, when it will kill a dog or a wolf by a single blow of its fore-foot. It is much sought after by the American Indians, both on account of the flesh, which is palatable, and the hides, with which they in part manufacture their canoes, and several articles of dress. The grain of the flesh is

coarse, and it is tougher than that of any other kind of venison. In its flavor it rather resembles beef. The nose is excellent, and so is the tongue, although the latter is by no means so fat and delicate as that of the reindeer. The male elk sometimes weighs from a thousand to twelve hundred pounds.

THE WONDERS OF THE ENGLISH PRESS.—A French *feuilletonniste*, astounded at the marvellous exhibition of *The Times* expresses, writes at Bonn, in the following strain:—"I begin to think that the five quarters of the globe will be wearied with the homage rendered to the memory of Beethoven. England alone has despatched 30 stenographers (short-hand writers.) *The Times* has established from Cologne to Ostend an express of steamers, in order to despatch its communications with greater celerity. The Eastern question itself did not excite so much interest, or cause such a bustle. The reason is that Beethoven is adored in England, and the English journalists (especially *The Times*;) spare no expense in endeavoring to satisfy the curiosity of their readers. In France, facts and news are sacrificed to the literary portion of the paper. In England, quite the contrary; an English paper especially plumes itself and rests its reputation upon being well informed upon every subject of news. As soon as any event is announced in any quarter of the world, no matter how far distant, a correspondent is immediately despatched to the scene of action, well qualified for the duty and well paid for his services. At his disposal are placed steam-packets, pigeons, *estafettes*, post-horses, and steam-engines, and fortunate is the journal which can manage to be beforehand with its rivals in the receipt of intelligence. The French newspapers are books, the English journals are really journals. The number of journalists that I have noticed at Bonn is prodigious: there are English, German, Belgian, Russian, Swedish, and American reporters. I cannot think without alarm of the immense mass of matter that they are now compiling, and the transformations which the truth must undergo in passing through so many pens!"

FOUR LIVES SAVED AT SEA.—Captain Mott, of the sloop *Opera*, of Brookhaven, arrived at Providence from Philadelphia, and gives the following account of his rescue of four persons from a most perilous situation. When about half way between Block Island and Point Judith, on the third instant, he discovered a signal of distress,

which he ran down for, and found it was made by four persons, viz. Dr. Dyer Smith, his wife, sister, and son, who were clinging to the bottom of a sail-boat, which they had been hanging to in the water upwards of an hour. The signal made was a shawl tied to an oar. The boat was towed into the river and saved by Captain M. Mr. Smith and his family belong to Pawtucket, and were on a pleasure excursion to Block Island. They had considerable clothing in the boat, which was lost, and the ladies bonnets were washed from their heads. Mr. S., just before leaving home, put some air-pipes into his boat, which buoyed her up, otherwise, having several bars of pig-iron for ballast, she would have sunk.

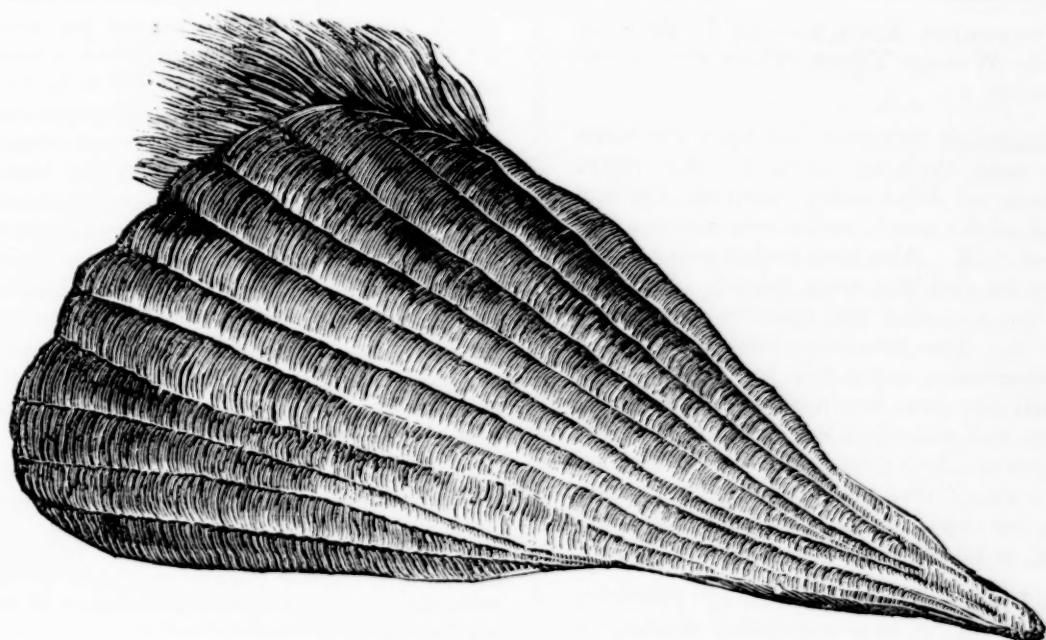
The Hon. C. J. Ingersoll is publishing a History of the War of 1812.

At the very opening of the work, in which the justice of the appeal to arms in 1812 is earnestly vindicated, we find these very noteworthy facts set down, concerning the popularity of our two great struggles with Great Britain:

"The common, perhaps salutary impression, that the Revolution was more unanimously supported, is a mistake. The majorities in Congress on all the essential principles in 1774 were extremely small. The Declaration of Independence was carried *with difficulty*, if not by accident. Most of the great measures and men, from 1774 to 1778, were decided in Congress by the vote of a *single State*, and that often by the vote of *one man*. The nation was more divided in the war of the Revolution than in that of 1812. There was no overt treason in the latter.—*Selected*.

EXPLOSION.—The Montreal *Courier* says that on the 28th ultimo, the steam mill at Yamaska was nearly destroyed by the bursting of the boiler. Such was the explosion that a piece of iron of about a ton weight, was carried upwards of a hundred and fifty feet in the air, together with several others of great weight, timber, brick, wood, &c., and the carding mill was literally crushed down; five of the workmen were severely injured, two of whom are so scalded as to render their recovery very doubtful; another had his spine and right arm much injured by pieces of iron and wood, and a poor woman who happened to be near the mill at the time of the explosion, received a severe wound on the head. A fine horse was killed by the explosion, being at the time near the furnace.

The farmer who is ashamed of his frock or the mechanic of his apron, is himself a shame to his profession.



THE PINNA.

This is one of the bivalves, or double shells, of which the most extravagant things have been believed and recorded. Roman writers gravely declared, that the animal inhabiting it was confederate with one of a different kind, a small shrimp, which acted the part of scavenger and spy for the pinna; running about to make discoveries of its enemies, (particularly the cuttle-fish,) and also of its prey, and, when in danger, taking refuge within its shells. The copy below from "Lessons on Shells," is a translation of lives by a Latin poet, on this fanciful fiction. The story probably grew out of the fact, that such crustaceous animals are sometimes found shut up in bivalves; though it is probably the effect of accident. We occasionally find small crabs in oysters.

The Pinna has thin and fragile shells, of a long triangular shape, and both of the same size and shape, without any hinge, fastened together, near the small end, by a long ligament—and gaping at the other. From the latter, proceeds a tuft of strong fibres, with which it holds itself to stones and other objects at the bottom of the sea, to retain its place. This is called its byssus, or beard, and resembles silk so much that it is collected and manufactured for similar purposes. It is produced, as that made by the silk worm, from a shining, gummy fluid, secreted by the animal, which adheres to what it touches, and, on being drawn, forms a fine fibre. It is said that the Pinna performs this movement several thousand times in making its byssus.

This marine silk is prepared for manufacture by twice soaking in tepid water, and then in soap-suds, after which it is spread to dry. While drying, it is rubbed by hand, and afterwards combed. In spinning, one thread of common silk is put with two or three of this; and then it is manufactured into stockings, gloves, and sometimes larger garments, being washed in lemon-juice and water, gently beaten with the hands, and smoothed with a warm iron, to give a finish.

The English name of the Pinna, is the Sea-wing. Its surface is often wrinkled and crossed with low ridges.

The "Cherokee Advocate" contains the proceedings of a meeting for the promotion of agriculture among the Cherokees. The meeting was addressed by Rev. S. Foreman, who drew a contrast between the state of agriculture as it is now found among the Cherokees, and what it was comparatively a few years ago, when they planted their little crops of corn, beans, potatoes, &c., by using the shoulder blades of the deer, instead of the plow and hoe; and enumerated some of the advantages that would be likely to result to the people from the formation of an Agricultural Society, in the cultivation of the soil, management of their household affairs, in the rearing of stock and the dissemination of useful information on a variety of subjects intimately associated with their present condition.

FOREIGN AND NATIVE CRIMINALS.—In the St. Louis prison, in August, 122 men and 16 women were confined, for breaches of the city ordinances. Of these, 13 were Americans, 1 Scotch, and 87 Irish.

WONDERFUL ESCAPE.—An English paper, the *Western Times*, relates the following incident:

"Budleigh Salterton has been the scene of a most thrilling incident. Six infant children, on Wednesday morning, got into a boat on the beach, and a mischievous boy shoved it off. The boat drifted away to sea before the children were missed. Terrible was the agony of the mothers when they knew it. The preventive men went off in all directions; every boat was on the lookout till far into the night. Daylight returned, and still there was no tidings of the helpless children; the day wore away, and still nothing was heard about them; they were lost either in the expanse of the wide ocean, or buried within its insatiable depths.

A Plymouth trawler fishing yesterday morning early, saw something floating at the distance; he bore down to it, and discovered it to be a boat—and in the bottom the six children, all cuddled in like a nest of birds, fast asleep. God having mercifully given them that blessed solace, after a day of terror and despair. The trawler took them on board, feasted them with bread and cheese, and gladdened their despairing little hearts with a promise to take them home. Between three and four in the afternoon, the trawler was seen in the offing with the boat astern. All eyes were turned towards him; the best spy glass in the town was rubbed again and again, and at last they made out it was the identical boat.

The news flew through the town—the mothers came frantic to the beach, for there were no children discerned in the boat; none to be seen in the sloop. Intense was the agony of suspense; and all alike shared it with the parents. At last the trawler came in, and the word went round 'they're all safe,' and many stout-hearted men burst into tears, women shrieked with joy and became almost frantic with their insupportable happiness. It was indeed a memorable day—and a prayer, eloquent for its rough sincerity, was offered up to Almighty God, who, in his infinite mercy, had spared these innocent children from the perils and terrors of the sea during that fearful night. Five of these children were under five years of age, the sixth is but nine years old."

POST OFFICE PERSEVERANCE.—**ADVENTURES OF A NEWSPAPER.**—An apprentice lad, on board an English vessel in Calcutta, had lately a packet presented to him through the Post Office, the postage of

which amounted to 20 rupees (or about £2 sterling.) It merely contained a newspaper, which some friend of his in London had inclosed in half a sheet of paper, and addressed to him when his vessel was in London, expecting that it would find him in St. Katharine's dock. His vessel, however, sailed before the letter could be delivered, and it followed him—first to Hobart Town, next to Sydney; thence to Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta; thence to the Mauritius, and, finally, back again to Calcutta, where it caught him, after having travelled 30,000 miles, and occupied on its tour one year and eight months.

Sale of Paintings, &c. at the Bonaparte Mansion, Point Breeze, New Jersey.—The sale of paintings and statuary, the collection of the late Joseph Bonaparte, Count de Survilliers, took place at the Mansion, and was well attended.

Toilet of Venus, by Natoire, (5 feet 6 inches long by 6 feet 5 inches high,) sold for \$325

A Calm: Morning Scene, by Joseph Vernet, (8 feet 4 inches by 5) sold for 950

Two Lions and Fawn, by Rubens, (7 feet 8 inches by 4 feet 7) 2,300

Landscape: Bay of Naples, by S. Denis—this is a superior painting, (7 feet 3 by 5 feet 2) 1,000

A Dutch Fair, by Francis Frank, (5 feet 9 by 3 feet 7) 250

The Entrance into the Ark, by Bassano, 225

The Lion caught in a Net, by Rubens, (6 feet 3 inches long, by 4 feet 8 inches high,) sold for 1,800

Marble Bust of Pauline, Sister of Napoleon, by Canova, 260

Young Diana and Hound, a fine sculpture, by Bartoline, 3 feet 6 inches high,) 380

Antique Bronze Casting: Stork and Frog, from the Ruins of Pompeii, 130

Antique Bronze Hawk and Animal, from the Ruins of Pompeii, 130

Medici Vase of Porphyry, (3 feet 1 inch high;) do. do. slightly damaged, 200

The sum total of the sales was \$10,885

THE OREGON SETTLERS, it is said, last year raised a surplus of 100,006 bushels of wheat. A grist mill with three run of stones was put in operation at Wallamette Falls this year.

Mr. Abernethy, formerly of New York city, had been elected Mayor of Oregon City at the Falls. He had gone to the Sandwich Islands to procure merchandise, which was scarce.

ANTI-RENT TRIALS.—At Delhi, N. Y., 93 persons have been indicted, and several new arrests have been made.

PARENTS' DEPARTMENT.

SCHOOL AT HOME.

Many will say the thing is impossible. But let us try first, if we feel the need of a better school than we can command, and decide afterwards. Experiment will enable us to come to a decision on which we can better rely. Some who have tried it, have come to a very different conclusion; and, if we review the lives of some of the most distinguished men, we shall find them, more or less of their time, regularly instructed at home by their fathers or mothers.

We often have our attention directed to the important influence exercised by parents, especially mothers, on the character and lives of their children; and yet, in most instances in which such influence has been traced, it has been exerted only in the usual modes, and on the common occasions of life. Few have tried the more systematic and regular plan necessary to a school. How much more might, in most instances, have been done, if such a course had been pursued. Few parents know, few mothers are prepared to believe, how much they can do, how well qualified are they for this task. If they could once become convinced of this, and of the pleasure which the practice would yield them, not in one, nor two, but in a score of ways, they certainly would do, what we long to see them do, begin without delay and without faint-hearted doubting, the task of almost all the most important to their children.

"How shall I begin? What books shall I use? What rules shall I adopt?" I fancy I hear these questions by maternal affection, not insensible to an appeal in behalf of her lovely charge. Begin in almost any manner you please, and with any books you find at hand. I will mention Colburn's Sequel—a little, but comprehensive collection of exercises in mental arithmetic. You will find questions in it adapted to children of every age: we may say of men and women too. Perseverance will gradually give your children greater readiness at solving questions in arithmetic with that kind of exercises, than any other. Let them, however, daily use the slate and pencil besides, "doing sums," and committing rules to memory out of some other books—almost any other.

Get a geography and atlas—we have many valuable modern ones. The old ones are deficient in maps, and questions to be answered on the map; Morse's, Mitchell's, Olney's, Woodbridge's, Huntington's, &c.

&c. For advanced pupils, Woodbridge and Willard's, Malte Brun's, &c. For little children, Parley's, or other primary geographies.

For spelling and reading, a lesson every day in a defining spelling-book, or, for older children, a dictionary. Some instructive and entertaining book should also be used for the same purposes; and, in our opinion, the Bible or Testament also. Some persons find objections to these; but, after much early and late experience, and long reflection, we think there is no profanation, no irreverence in the eyes of the child, and no evil effect to be apprehended in the serious use of the scriptures in this way. We are much more afraid of their not being familiar enough to the rising generation.

Books of travels, natural history, (we hardly know whether to prefer beasts, birds, fish or insects, shells or plants;) but make everything as familiar as you can; get by all the hard words, for the few first years, as much as possible, and show specimens whenever you can. Encourage them, in play-hours, to plant flowers, water and guard them, collect leaves of different shapes, and to enquire into the properties, history, &c. of all natural objects.

Writing compositions should be begun as early as the child can write words in the first character, and be ever afterwards continued, on slates or paper. This exercise combines writing, spelling and grammar, while it exercises the observation and memory. It often, also, matures the mind in its opinions on important subjects, while it trains it to the use of its powers. Composition may be directed in different ways. A simple anecdote at first may be narrated by the teacher, and written down in a few words by the child. Or he may be required to begin with unaccented words, as: "Write down, my dear, the names of five things you saw this morning, on five words, showing what you have done, on five kinds of fruit, birds, &c."

But it will be said: "I do not know half that these books contain; I fear I should appear but a dull scholar, if set to recite from them myself." And do you suppose that all the teachers are so wise when they begin? Far from it, I assure you. How many of them, indeed, go more or less by the books: and, indeed, never become independent of them?

The Census of Troy shows a population of 21,681 gain since 1840, or 2,347, or 12 per cent.

MISCELLANEOUS.

CALIFORNIA.—The Californians have recently nullified the Mexican tariff. Since Michletorena has been driven out of California, the province has been independent.—They sent the General and his troops to San Blas, at an expense of \$11,000, and after that in their own right took possession of the archives, and made a division of the office.

The number of emigrants arriving at California was very large, all along the coast, and the emigrants are all against Mexico. A letter dated Monterey, June 1st, says that the last great battle between the Mexicans and Californians, was fought in February, with cannon on each side and plenty of small arms. The cannonade was kept up for the greatest part of two days. Loss, four horses. The men were wiser, keeping out of the way of cannon balls and grape. They only like the latter (under the same name) when distilled.

THE MEXICAN GENERALS.—Bustamente, who has just been appointed by Herrera, the head of the Mexican army to operate against Texas, was formerly the leader of the Centralists, in Mexico. He was put down by Paredes. When Paredes was expelled from Mexico, he resided for some time in Philadelphia. He is about 50 years of age, and has the reputation of being brave and moderate. He was the first to pronounce against Santa Anna in the revolution of last year.

General Arista, having been banished from Mexico, took up his residence in Cincinnati. When expelled, he was a Colonel of lancers, and he is now regarded as the best Cavalry officer in Mexico. While in Cincinnati, finding himself without resources, he applied himself to the tin and copper making business, and became (in five years he spent in that city,) a first rate workman.

FROM CORPUS CHRISTI.—A letter dated at Corpus Christi the 30th August, says that General Taylor's forces there numbered 1900 efficient men.

His tents are pitched on a piece of table land that reaches about a quarter of a mile to a range of hills; at a distance of half a mile from the crest of these he has stationed, as an out guard, a force of one hundred and twenty tried Texans. Maj. Gally, commanding the volunteers from New Orleans, is entrusted with guarding the extreme left, whilst the extreme right is safely guarded by Colonel Twiggs, commanding the 2d Dragoons. The centre is composed of the 3d, 4th and 7th Regiments of Infantry.

The Commanding General has thrown up a field work, a wall of shells and sand, six feet thick and three hundred yards in length, on his right. In case of an overpowering attack from this quarter, the troops stationed on side of this wall are to retreat behind it. The whole length of the line along the shore occupied, appears to be about one mile and a half.

It is probably one of the healthiest and pleasantest spots in the world. The only drawback to continuing this encampment, is the scarcity of wood and water—the former, the troops haul about three miles, and the latter is quite brackish. They purchase Mexican ponies at from \$10 to \$30. The waters abound with fish and oysters, both of a superior kind, and the prairies adjacent with rich flavored venison. Large and fat beeves are slaughtered daily for the use of the troops.

It is supposed Gen. Taylor will wait two months in his present position, to know what the Mexicans will do. If they do nothing, our government will send a commissioner to Mexico, to lay down the boundary of the two countries. If Mexico refuses to receive the commissioner, and blindly turns away from a peaceable settlement, then our forces will immediately occupy the mouth and borders of the Rio Grande, and establish that as the boundary, whether or no.

THE NEW YORK STATE AGRICULTURAL FAIR commenced at Utica on the 18th of September.

An open lot, about a mile from the railroad, was selected, and 10 acres enclosed. Four large buildings were erected. One called "Floral Hall," and is intended for the exhibition of fruits, flowers, and other horticultural productions. This building has been very tastefully decorated with greens—the ladies being the artists. The second is the "Ladies' Hall;" the third for specimens of mechanical skill and ingenuity; and the fourth for the use of the farmers, and the rich products of the dairy.

The Electro Magnetic Telegraph was in full operation upon the ground. The wires are extended on the main line as far as Herkimer, and the posts are up the entire distance to Little Falls. When the Telegraph is completed through to Albany, our Utica friends can ascertain the doings of the Albanians about six minutes before they take place! So much for writing by lightning! Franklin never dreamed so far as that!

The mechanics of Utica got up an opposition creditable to them so far as regards the number and excellence of articles.

PENNSYLVANIA now produces annually, 15,000,000 bushels of wheat, and 45,000,000 bushels of other grain, and is capable of increasing the amount four-fold. She will send to market this year 2,000,000 tons of anthracite coal, yielding a return of \$7,000,009.—She manufactures three-fourths of the iron made in the whole Union, and has the means of supplying the consumption of the world. The state has a bituminous coal field, through which the main line of canal passes, for one hundred and thirty one miles, containing one thousand square miles, or 6,000,000 acres: when all Europe contains only two thousand square miles of bituminous coal land.

Important from China.

The fine ship *Rainbow*, Capt. Land, from Canton 5th of June, made a very extraordinary voyage out and home. She left New York on the first of February. This is her first voyage.

[From the Friend of China.]

On Sunday afternoon, a fire broke out in a theatre within the walls of the city. The theatre formed the centre of a square, to which there was only access by one narrow lane.

The audience endeavored to escape by the lane, but the crowd from without were trying to force their way into the square, the great confusion prevailing.

The lives were lost by the fire, the falling timber, or by the crowd and suffocation. The bodies are so horribly mutilated, their friends cannot recognise them.

By the Mandarin's books, the total number of killed is 1,257, including 52 male and female actors; the wounded are estimated at 2,100.

Thirty years ago, a similar accident happened at the same theatre. At that time the authorities forbade dramatic performances by the inhabitants; the present company are outside people. It is anticipated that an edict will be issued, strictly prohibiting all such exhibitions in future.

A large portion of the dead are females; and it is feared that not a few were murdered by the robbers that infest the city, on purpose to obtain bracelets and other ornaments.

Fire at Canton, and loss of 2,000 lives.—*Hong Kong, May 28.*—About ten on the evening of Saturday, a fire—or we may rather say fires—broke out in the sheds erected along the water side, where the Military Hospital and other public building are in the course of erection, destroying a large quantity of timber and all the door and window frames for the Hospital, which were only finished that day.—The fire spread rapidly, seizing upon the mat roof over the buildings, which was quickly burned or torn down.

About two hundred men were landed from *H. H. S. Castor*, *Plover*, and *Minden*, and were of great service in checking the conflagration, by pulling down the sheds and houses.

There is reason to believe that the fire was the work of incendiaries.

HONG-KONG, May 15.—When Hong-Kong was ceded to her Majesty, most of the British merchants resident in China were induced to build houses and stores on the Island, in the reasonable expectation that a large junk trade would immediately spring up, similar to that the Chinese carry on with the comparatively distant ports of Batavia and Singapore. They have been disappointed. Free intercourse with the five ports is all a delusion—that is, we can visit these ports, but not a native vessel nor a native merchant can come to Hong-

Kong. We see junks passing through the harbor on their passage to and from Macao; we also know that large fleets of them visit the Islands for articles of traffic which they could better obtain here, without the danger and delay of a long voyage—but here they do not come. The cause of this is no secret—they dare not trade at Hong-Kong. The much lauded treaty made by Sir. Henry Pottinger completely checks the slightest approach to that description of commerce which must have almost been calculated upon.

CANTON.—On the 2d of May, the Canton Baptist Missionaries opened a Medical Dispensary in that city, in a house a few streets off from the foreign factories. Crowds of patients continue to attend. The Dispensary is always opened with prayer in Chinese, and each patient receives a tract and Christian teaching. A system of extensive book distribution throughout the city having been put in operation, the Dispensary is also used as a book depository for the present.

Our native preachers find no hindrance in their work.

SHANGHAI.—The Rev. Mr. Medhurst, dressed as a Chinaman, is on a long tour in the country, where it is hoped he will meet with success.

Opium is carried up the river in Mandarin boats, with the Mandarin's flag flying at the masthead. It is said that some new arrangements have been made with the authorities, and now the drug is landed openly in bags immediately below the foreign factories.

From Honan province, there are accounts of an earthquake which demolished about ten thousand houses, killing upwards of four thousand people. Circulars with the particulars, are selling in the streets of Canton.

The Board of Punishments has just submitted to Government the names of fifty individuals who are condemned to suffer death for various offences, some for having sold, others for having smoked, opium. The Board humbly apply to the Sovereign to decide whether these malefactors ought not rather to be transported instead of being strangled. The imperial assent to this proposal has been obtained, but the law denouncing death to all smokers and sellers of the drug remains in force, although the execution is suspended.

PRIMITIVE.—Judge Morris, in his History of the Town of Litchfield, Ct., says:—

“The first use of the violin in this town for a dance, was in the year 1748. The whole expense of the amusement, although the young people generally attended did not exceed one dollar, out of which the fiddler was paid. When this instance of profusion took place, parents and old people exclaimed that they should be ruined by the extravagance of the youth. In the year 1798, a ball, with the customary entertainment and variety of music, cost \$160, and nothing was said about it.—Such has been the difference in the manners of Litchfield within half a century.”

POETRY.

AT HOME! SWEET HOME!

[From "Songs in the Night"—a volume of Sacred Poetry, recently published by Mr. Perkins, of Boston.]

Where burns the fireside brightest,
Cheering the social breast?
Where beats the fond heart lightest,
Its humble hopes possessed?
Where is the hour of sadness
With meek-eyed patience borne?
Worth more than those of gladness,
Which mirth's gay cheeks adorn!
Pleasure is marked with fleetness
To those who ever roam,
While grief itself hath sweetness
At home—sweet home!

There blend the ties that strengthen
Our hearts in hours of grief—
The silver links that lengthen
Joy's visits when most brief;
There, eyes in all their splendor,
Are vocal to the heart,
And glances, bright and tender,
Fresh eloquence impart;
Then, dost thou sigh for pleasure
O do not widely roam,
But seek that hidden treasure
At home—sweet home!

Does pure religion charm thee,
Far more than aught below?
Would'st thou that she should arm thee
Against the hour of woe?
Her dwelling is not only
In temples built for prayer,
For home itself is lonely,
Unless her smiles be there;
Wherever we may wander,
'Tis all in vain we roam,
If worshipless her altar
At home—sweet home!

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL FAIR OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE.—We learn from the circulars and advertisements of this Society, that the exhibition will be opened to the public on Monday, the 6th day of October, at 12 o'clock, M., at Niblo's Garden, Broadway, in the city of New York. Contributions from exhibitors will be received on Thursday, Friday and Saturday of the previous week.

The arrangements are on a scale more extended and attractive than ever before. Several opulent and munificent individuals, desirous of volunteered donations for the purpose.

There will be an opening address, followed by novel and interesting displays of the *Pyrotechnic Art*.

On Thursday, the ninth day of October, a National Convention of Farmers and Gardeners, and Silk Culturists will be held. Washington's Home Department of Agriculture will again be urged.

For the second week has been assigned the show of cattle, horses, and other live stock,

and the ploughing and spading matches. Fine horses, combing size, strength and fleetness, for wagon and carriage—healthy fat cattle and sheep, suitable for market—well trained, well matched, and powerful working cattle, and the best milch cows, will each and all command high premiums. To accommodate those interested in the cattle show, a plot of ground has been secured near the intersection of Broadway and the Fifth Avenue, with rooms on the premises for the committees. The ploughing and spading matches will be held in New York, or its vicinity.

The anniversary and other addresses will be delivered in the course of the second week. The horticultural exhibition of vegetables, fruits, flowers, &c., will be in Niblo's long promenade. Varieties of rare seeds have been the last year, scattered by the Institute over our country, with the express understanding, that a portion of their products be brought to the Fair. The great saloon, and the second story of the north wing, will, as usual, be reserved for the fabrics of the factory and workshop; cotton, woollen, silk, metals and other substances. The first floor of the north wing of the saloon will be animated by moving machinery, propelled by our best model steam engines.

FACTORY BURNED.—The Eagle Factory, at North Adams, Mass., was, with all its contents, entirely destroyed by fire on Wednesday afternoon. The building was owned by J. E. Marshall, and occupied as a planeing, cotton batting, and wicking, and bobbin factory.

The St. Louis Republican of Monday week has a letter from Illinois, dated at Warsaw, 11th inst., announcing an attack on an anti-Mormon convention near Warsaw, 9th inst., by a party of Mormons. A volley of musketry was fired by the Mormons, but no lives lost. The anti-Mormons were arming for battle.—*Sun*.

THE AMERICAN PENNY MAGAZINE

AND FAMILY NEWSPAPER,

Edited by Theodore Dwight, Jr.

Is published weekly, at the office of the New York Express, No. 112 Broadway, at 3 cents a number, (16 pages large octavo,) or, to subscribers receiving it by mail, and paying in advance, \$1 a year. The postage is now *Free* for this city, Brooklyn, Harlem, Newark, and all other places within 30 miles; only *one cent* a copy for other parts of the State, and other places within 100 miles; and 1 1-2 cents for other parts of the Union. Persons forwarding the money for five copies, will receive a sixth gratis. The first half-yearly volume, of 416 pages, will soon be ready, bound in muslin price \$1—to regular subscribers, 75 cents. The work will form a volume of 832 pages annually.

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